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Information

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BY CABLE

1. Eight sources have consistently identified a new-type medium tank with Soviet units in East Germany. While the tank has been called the T-54, it is not definitely known that it has been so designated by the Soviets.
2. The tank has been described as follows:
 - a. The suspension is identical with that of the T-34, but features spoked wheels.
 - b. While the hull is also similar to that of the T-34, the forward part of the silhouette is lower. The driver's escape hatch is located in the center of the sloping front part of the hull, below the gun.
 - c. The most characteristic difference lies in the turret which is shaped like a turtle shell, resembling the turret of the JS-3. The total height is therefore lower than that of the T-34.
 - d. The main armament of the new tank is believed to be a 100-mm gun without muzzle brake.
3. The new medium tank is believed to be the standard replacement model for the T-34/85.
4. So far, the new tank has been observed with the following units: the Seventh Guards Tank Division at Meinsdorf, the Ninth Tank Division at Zeithain, the Tenth Guards Tank Division at Satz Korn, and the Twelfth Guards Tank Division at Neuruppin.

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